

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION CREW

I. Introduction

A. Authority

This Code of Conduct for the International Space Station (ISS) Crew, hereinafter referred to as Crew Code of Conduct (CCOC), is established pursuant to:

(1) Article 11 (Crew) of the intergovernmental Agreement Among the Government of Canada, Governments of Member States of the European Space Agency, the Government of Japan, the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America Concerning Cooperation on the Civil International Space Station (the IGA) signed by the Partner States on January 29, 1998; and

(2) Article 11 (Space Station Crew) of the Memoranda of Understanding between, respectively, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States of America (NASA) and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA), NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA), NASA and the Government of Japan (GOJ), and NASA and the Russian Space Agency (RSA) Concerning Cooperation on the Civil International Space Station (the MOUs), which require, inter alia, that the crew Code of Conduct be developed by the partners.

B. Scope and Content

The partners have developed and approved this CCOC to: establish a clear chain of command on-orbit; establish a clear relationship between ground and on-orbit management; and establish a management hierarchy; set forth standards for work and activities in space, and, as appropriate, on the ground; establish responsibilities with respect to elements and equipment; set forth disciplinary regulations; establish physical and information security guidelines; and define the ISS Commander's authority and responsibility, on behalf of all the partners, to enforce safety procedures, physical and information security procedures and crew rescue procedures for the ISS. This CCOC and the disciplinary policy referred to in Section IV shall not limit the application of Article 22 of the IGA. This CCOC succeeds the NASA-RSA Interim Code of Conduct, which was developed pursuant to Article 11.2 of the MOU between NASA and RSA to cover early assembly prior to other partners' flight opportunities.

This CCOC sets forth the standards of conduct applicable to all ISS Crew Members during pre-flight, on-orbit and post-flight activities (including launch and return phases).

ISS Crew Members are subject to additional requirements, such as the ISS Flight Rules, the disciplinary policy, and requirements imposed by their Cooperating Agency or those relating to the Earth to Orbit Vehicle (ETOV) transporting an ISS Crew Member. Each ISS Crew Member has a right to know about such additional requirements. ISS Crew Members will also abide by the rules of the institution hosting the training, and by standards and requirements defined by the Multilateral Crew Operations Panel (MCOP), the Multilateral Space Medicine Board (MSMB) and the Multilateral Medical Operations Panel (MMOP). Each ISS Crew Member will be informed by the Cooperating Agency providing him or her of the responsibilities of ISS Crew Members under the IGA, the MOUs and this CCOC. Further, each ISS Crew Member will be educated by the Cooperating Agency providing him or her, through the crew training curriculum and normal program operations, as to ISS Program rules, operational directives and management policies. Completion of post-flight activities shall not affect an ISS Crew Member's continuing obligations under Section V of this CCOC.

** This Code was approved by the Multilateral Coordination Board on 15 September 2000.*

C. Definitions

For the purposes of the CCOC:

- (1) "Cooperating Agency" means NASA, CSA, ESA, Rosaviakosmos (formerly RSA) and, in the case of Japan, the Science and Technology Agency of Japan (STA) and, as appropriate, the National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA), assisting agency to STA.
- (2) "Crew Surgeon" means a Flight Surgeon assigned by the MMOP to any given expedition. He or she is the lead medical officer and carries primary responsibility for the health and well-being of the entire ISS crew.
- (3) "Disciplinary policy" means the policy developed by the MCOP to address violations of the CCOC and impose disciplinary measures.
- (4) "ETOV" means Earth to Orbit Vehicle travelling between Earth and the ISS.
- (5) "Flight Director" means the Flight Director in control of the ISS.
- (6) "Flight Rules" means the set of rules used by the Cooperating Agencies to govern flight operations.
- (7) "ISS Crew Member" means any person approved for flight to the ISS, including both ISS expedition crew and visiting crew, beginning upon assignment to the crew for a specific mission and ending upon completion of the post-flight activities related to the mission.

II. General Standards

A. Responsibilities of ISS Crew Members

ISS Crew Members shall comply with the CCOC. Accordingly, during pre-flight, on-orbit and post-flight activities, they shall comply with the ISS Commander's orders, all Flight and ISS program rules, operational directives and management policies, as applicable. These include those related to safety, health, well-being, security and other operational or management matters governing all aspects of ISS elements, equipment, payloads and facilities, and non-ISS facilities, to which they have access. All applicable rules, regulations, directives and policies shall be made accessible to ISS Crew Members through appropriate means, coordinated by the MCOP.

B. General Rules of Conduct

ISS Crew Members' conduct shall be such as to maintain a harmonious and cohesive relationship among the ISS Crew Members and an appropriate level of mutual confidence and respect through an interactive, participative and relationship-oriented approach which duly takes into account the international and multicultural nature of the crew and mission.

No ISS Crew Member shall, by his or her conduct, act in a manner which results in or creates the appearance of: (1) giving undue preferential treatment to any person or entity in the performance of ISS activities; and/or (2) adversely affecting the confidence of the public in the integrity of, or reflecting unfavorably in a public forum on, any ISS Partner, Partner State or Cooperating Agency.

ISS Crew Members shall protect and conserve all property to which they have access for ISS activities. No such property shall be altered or removed for any purpose other than those necessary for the performance of ISS duties. Before altering or removing any such property, ISS Crew Members shall first obtain authorization from the Flight Director, except as necessary to ensure the immediate safety of ISS Crew Members or ISS elements, equipment or payloads.

C. Use of Position

ISS Crew Members shall refrain from any use of the position of ISS Crew Member that is motivated, or has the appearance of being motivated, by private gain, including financial gain, for himself or herself or other persons or entities. Performance of ISS duties shall not be considered to be motivated by private gain. Furthermore, no ISS Crew Member shall use the position of ISS Crew Member in any way to coerce, or give the appearance of coercing, another person to provide any financial benefit to himself or herself or other persons or entities.

D. Mementos and Personal Effects

Each ISS Crew Member may carry and store mementos, including flags, patches, insignia and similar small items of minor value, onboard the ISS, for his or her private use, subject to the following:

- (1) mementos are permitted as a courtesy, not an entitlement; as such they shall be considered as ballast as opposed to a payload or mission requirement and are subject to manifest limitations, on-orbit stowage allocations and safety considerations;
- (2) mementos may not be sold, transferred for sale, used or transferred for personal gain, or used or transferred for any commercial or fundraising purpose. Mementos which, by their nature, lend themselves to exploitation by the recipients, or which, in the opinion of the Cooperating Agency providing the ISS Crew Member, engender questions as to good taste, will not be permitted.

An ISS Crew Member's personal effects, such as a wristwatch, will not be considered mementos. Personal effects of any nature may be permitted, subject to constraints of mass/volume allowances for crew personal effects, approval of the ISS Crew Member's Cooperating Agency and approval of the transporting Cooperating Agency, and considerations of safety and good taste.

If a Cooperating Agency carries and stores items on board the ISS in connection with separate arrangements, these items will not be considered mementos of the ISS Crew Members.

III. Authority and Responsibilities of the ISS Commander, Chain of Command and Succession On-Orbit; Relationship between Ground and On-Orbit Management

A. Authority and Responsibilities of the ISS Commander

The ISS Commander, as an ISS Crew Member, is subject to the standards detailed elsewhere in this CCOC, in addition to the command-specific provisions set forth below. The ISS Commander will seek to maintain a harmonious and cohesive relationship among the ISS Crew Members and an appropriate level of mutual confidence and respect through an interactive, participative and relationship-oriented approach which duly takes into account the international and multicultural nature of the crew and mission.

For avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Section shall affect the ability of the MCOP to designate the national of any Partner State as ISS Commander.

1. During Pre-Flight and Post-Flight Activities

The ISS Commander is the leader of the crew and is responsible for forming the individual ISS Crew Members into a single integrated team. During pre-flight activities, the ISS Commander, to the extent of his or her authority, leads the ISS Crew Members through the training curriculum and mission preparation activities and seeks to ensure that the ISS Crew Members are adequately prepared for the mission, acting as the crew's representative to the ISS Program's training, medical, operations and utilization authorities. During post-flight activities, the ISS Commander

coordinates as necessary with these authorities to ensure that the ISS Crew Members complete the required postflight activities.

2. During On-Orbit Operations

(a) General

The ISS Commander is responsible for and will, to the extent of his or her authority and the ISS on-orbit capabilities, accomplish the mission program implementation and assure the safety of the ISS Crew Members and the protection of the ISS elements, equipment or payloads.

(b) Main Responsibilities

The ISS Commander's main responsibilities are to:

- (1) conduct operations in or on the ISS as directed by the Flight Director and in accordance with the Flight Rules, plans and procedures;
- (2) direct the activities of the ISS Crew Members as a single integrated team to ensure the successful completion of the mission;
- (3) fully and accurately inform the Flight Director, in a timely manner, of the ISS vehicle configuration, status, commanding and other operational activities on-board (including off-nominal or emergency situations);
- (4) enforce procedures for the physical and information security of operations and utilization data;
- (5) maintain order;
- (6) ensure crew safety, health and well-being including crew rescue and return; and
- (7) take all reasonable action necessary for the protection of ISS elements, equipment or payloads.

(c) Scope of Authority

During all phases of on-orbit activities, the ISS Commander, consistent with the authority of the Flight Director, shall have the authority to use any reasonable and necessary means to fulfil his or her responsibilities. This authority, which shall be exercised consistent with the provisions of Sections II and IV, extends to:

- (1) the ISS elements, equipment and payloads;
- (2) the ISS Crew Members;
- (3) activities of any kind occurring in or on the ISS; and
- (4) data and personal effects in or on the ISS where necessary to protect the safety and well-being of the ISS Crew Members and the ISS. Any matter outside the ISS Commander's authority shall be within the purview of the Flight Director.

Issues regarding the Commander's use of such authority shall be referred to the Flight Director as soon as practicable, who will refer the matter to appropriate authorities for further handling. Although other ISS Crew Members may have authority over and responsibility for certain ISS elements, equipment, payloads or tasks, the ISS Commander remains ultimately responsible, and solely accountable, to the Flight Director for the successful completion of the activity and the mission.

B. Chain of Command and Succession On-Orbit

1. The ISS Commander is the highest authority among the ISS Crew Members on-orbit. The MCOP will determine the order of succession among the ISS Crew Members in advance of flight and the Flight Rules set forth the implementation of a change of command.

2. Relationship of the ISS Commander to ETOV and Other Commanders

The Flight Rules define the authority of the ETOV Commander, the Rescue Vehicle Commander and any other commanders, and set forth the relationship between their respective authorities and the authority of the ISS Commander.

C. Relationship Between the ISS Commander (On-Orbit Management) and the Flight Director (Ground Management)

The Flight Director is responsible for directing the mission. A Flight Director will be in charge of directing real-time ISS operations at all times. The ISS Commander, working under the direction of the Flight Director and in accordance with the Flight Rules, is responsible for conducting on-orbit operations in the manner best suited to the effective implementation of the mission. The ISS Commander, acting on his or her own authority, is entitled to change the daily routine of the ISS Crew Members where necessary to address contingencies, perform urgent work associated with crew safety and protection of ISS elements, equipment or payloads, or conduct critical flight operations. Otherwise, the ISS Commander should implement the mission as directed by the Flight Director. Specific roles and responsibilities of the ISS Commander and the Flight Director are described in the Flight Rules. The Flight Rules outline decisions planned in advance of the mission and are designed to minimize the amount of real-time discussion required during mission operations.

IV. Disciplinary Regulations

ISS Crew Members will be subject to the disciplinary policy developed and revised as necessary by the MCOP and approved by the Multilateral Coordination Board (MCB). The MCOP has developed an initial disciplinary policy which has been approved by the MCB. The disciplinary policy is designed to maintain order among the ISS Crew Members during preflight, on-orbit and post-flight activities. The disciplinary policy is administrative in nature and is intended to address violations of the CCOC. Such violations may, inter alia, affect flight assignments as an ISS Crew Member. The disciplinary policy does not limit a Cooperating Agency's right to apply relevant laws, regulations, policies and procedures to the ISS Crew Members it provides, consistent with the IGA and the MOUs.

V. Physical and Information Security Guidelines

The use of all equipment and goods to which ISS Crew Members have access shall be limited to the performance of ISS duties. Marked or otherwise identified export controlled data and marked proprietary data obtained by an ISS Crew Member in the course of ISS activities shall only be used in the performance of his or her ISS duties.

With respect to data first generated onboard the ISS, the ISS Crew Members will be advised by the appropriate Cooperating Agency or by the data owner or provider through that Cooperating Agency as to the proprietary or export-controlled nature of the data and will be directed to mark and protect such data and to continue such protection for as long as the requirements for such protection remain in place. Additionally, ISS Crew Members shall act in a manner consistent with the provisions of the IGA and the MOUs regarding protection of operations data, utilization data, and the intellectual property of ISS users.

They shall also comply with applicable ISS Program rules, operational directives and management policies designed to further such protection.

Personal information about ISS Crew Members, including all medical information, private family conference or other private information, whether from verbal, written or electronic sources, shall not be used or disclosed by other ISS Crew Members for any purpose, without the consent of the affected ISS Crew Member, except as required for the immediate safety of ISS Crew Members or

the protection of ISS elements, equipment or payloads. In particular, all personal medical information, whether derived from medical monitoring, investigations or medical contingency events, shall be treated as private medical information and shall be transmitted in a private and secure fashion in accordance with procedures to be set forth by the MMOP. Medical data which must be handled in this fashion includes, for example, biomedical telemetry, private medical communications and medical investigation data. Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to limit an ISS Crew Member's access to all medical resources aboard the ISS, to ground-based medical support services or to his or her own medical data during pre-flight, on-orbit and post-flight activities.

VI. Protection of Human Research Subjects

No research on human subjects shall be conducted which could, with reasonable foresight, be expected to jeopardize the life, health, physical integrity or safety of the subject.

No research procedures shall be undertaken with any ISS Crew Member as a human subject without:

- (1) written approval by the Human Research Multilateral Review Board (HRMRB) and
- (2) the full written and informed consent of the human subject. Each such approval and consent shall be obtained prior to the initiation of such research, and shall fully comply with the requirements of the HRMRB. The HRMRB is responsible for procedures for initiation of new experiments on orbit when all consent requirements have been met but the signature of the human subject cannot be obtained; explicit consent of the human subject will nonetheless be required in all such cases.

Subjects volunteering for human research protocols may at their own discretion, and without providing a rationale, withdraw their consent for participation at any time, without prejudice, and without incurring disciplinary action. In addition, approval or consent for any research may be revoked at any time, including after the commencement of the research, by the HRMRB, the Crew Surgeon, the Flight Director or the ISS Commander, as appropriate, if the research would endanger the ISS Crew Member or otherwise threaten the mission success. A decision to revoke consent by the human subject or approval by the other entities listed above will be final.